

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An oligonucleotide comprising:

5'TCGX₁X₂N₁3'

wherein X₁ is any nucleotide, X₂ is A, T, or C when X₁ is C or A, X₂ is A or G when X₁ is T, X₂ is any nucleotide when X₁ is G, N₁ is 2-95 nucleotides, wherein the CG dinucleotide is an unmethylated CG dinucleotide, wherein 5' designates the 5' end of the oligonucleotide and 3' designates the 3' end of the oligonucleotide, and wherein N₁ does not include an unmethylated CG motif, wherein the oligonucleotide is 13-100 nucleotides in length.

2-5. (Canceled).

6. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide includes at least 1 modified internucleotide linkage.

7. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide includes at least 50% modified internucleotide linkage.

8. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein all internucleotide linkages of the oligonucleotide are modified.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (Original) The oligonucleotide of claim 6, wherein the stabilized internucleotide linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

11-12. (Canceled).

13. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N₁ is N₂N₃ and wherein N₂ is 8-94 nucleotides and N₃ is 2-5 pyrimidines.

14. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein N₃ is TTTTT.

15. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein N₃ is TT.

16. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 13, wherein N₂ is 8-40 nucleotides.

17. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N₁ is at least 50% pyrimidine.

18. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N₁ is at least 80% pyrimidine.

19. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N₁ is free of Poly-A and Poly-G sequences.

20. (Withdrawn) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein N₁ is TN₂ and wherein N₂ is 8-94 nucleotides.

21-22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously Presented) The oligonucleotide of claim 1, wherein the oligonucleotide has a 3'-3' linkage with one or two accessible 5' ends.

24. (Original) The oligonucleotide of claim 23, wherein the oligonucleotide has two accessible 5' ends, each of which are 5'TCG.

25-90. (Canceled).

91. (New) A method for treating allergy or asthma, comprising:
administering to a subject having or at risk of having allergy or asthma an oligonucleotide of claim 1 in an effective amount to treat allergy or asthma.

92. (New) The method of claim 91, wherein the oligonucleotide is administered to a respiratory tissue.

93. (New) The method of claim 91, wherein the subject has or is at risk of developing allergic asthma.

94. (New) A method for inducing cytokine production, comprising:
administering to a subject an oligonucleotide of claims 1 in an effective amount to induce a cytokine selected from the group consisting of IP10, IL6, IL12, IL18, TNF, chemokines, IFN- α and IFN- γ .

95. (New) A method for treating infectious disease, comprising:
administering to a subject having or at risk of having an infectious disease an oligonucleotide of claims 1 in an effective amount to treat the infectious disease.

96. (New) The method of claim 95 wherein the subject has or is at risk of having a bacterial infection.

97. (New) The method of claim 95 wherein the subject has or is at risk of having a viral infection.

98. (New) A method for treating cancer, comprising:

administering to a subject having or at risk of having cancer an oligonucleotide of claim-1 in an effective amount to treat cancer.

99. (New) The method of claim 98, wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of biliary tract cancer, breast cancer, cervical cancer, choriocarcinoma, colon cancer, endometrial cancer, gastric cancer, intraepithelial neoplasms, lymphomas, liver cancer, lung cancer (e.g. small cell and non-small cell), melanoma, neuroblastomas, ovarian cancer, pancreatic cancer, prostate cancer, rectal cancer, sarcomas, thyroid cancer, renal cancer, bone cancer, brain and CNS cancer, connective tissue cancer, esophageal cancer, eye cancer, Hodgkin's lymphoma, larynx cancer, oral cavity cancer, skin cancer, and testicular cancer, as well as other carcinomas and sarcomas.

100. (New) The method of claim 98, further comprising administering an anti-cancer agent.

101. (New) A method for inducing innate immunity in a subject, comprising: administering to a subject an oligonucleotide of claims 1 in an effective amount to induce innate immunity.

102. (New) A method for inducing a Th1 immune response, comprising: administering to a subject an oligonucleotide of claims 1 in an effective amount to induce a Th1 immune response.